

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please cancel the original Abstract on page 17 in its entirety and insert therefor:

ABSTRACT

Sub B1
An otoplasty for behind-the-ear provisions for hearing aids, with which a preferably flexible signal conductor coming from the behind-the-ear device, such as a sound tube, can be positioned in the auditory canal. The otoplasty is individually adapted to the anatomy of the patient. Its fixing part is essentially in the form of a hook that follows the outer edge of the patient's cavum conchae in an arch, at least in some areas. A limb that follows the edge of the cavum conchae becomes a bent transversal section above the patient's antitragus, traversing the cavum conchae, extending in the direction of the patient's porus acusticus externus and expanding at its end section which comes to rest in the upper area of the auditory canal, to receive the signal conductor.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present preliminary amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice.

By the present preliminary amendment original Claims 1-14 are canceled and new Claims 15-31 are presented for examination. New Claims 15-31 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including original Claims 1-14, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. Further, new Claims 15-31 are not believed to be more narrow in scope in any aspect in comparison with canceled Claims 1-14.